



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 18 2017

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Elizabeth Hitchcock
Government Affairs Director
Safer Chemicals Healthy Families
641 S St, NW, 3rd Floor
Washington DC, 20001

Re: Request for extension of comment period: Methylene Chloride and N-Methylpyrrolidone;
Regulation of Certain Uses Under TSCA § 6(a) (docket ID EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0231)

Dear Ms. Hitchcock:

Thank you for your letter of April 4, 2017, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting that the Agency not extend the comment period for the proposed rule on the uses of methylene chloride and N-methylpyrrolidone in paint and coating removal (RIN 2070-AK07) by 120 days to August 17, 2017, as other commenters have requested.

We appreciate your participation in the comment process, and recognize your request to maintain the current comment period. However, in the interest of receiving comprehensive public comments for the benefit of the current rule, we have decided to extend the comment period for 30 days, until May 19, 2017. The Agency believes this extension of 30 days beyond the current comment period of 90 days will not create delays in subsequent administrative steps related to either the current or future rule proposals and will be sufficient for receiving additional comments.

Any questions regarding this response should be directed to Joel Wolf at (202) 564-0432.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wendy C. Hamnett", is positioned above the typed name.

Wendy Cleland-Hamnett
Acting Assistant Administrator